94. Certain matters connected with the working of the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation.

Mr. S. Bhaskaran Moothathu, B. A. (Member, T. I. C., Haripad) said that, by virtue of Section 33 of the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation, the Town Improvement Committees had occupancy rights over all the streets within the towns, and they were responsible for keeping them enclosed and in a wholesome condition. The word "street," as defined in Regulation III of 1076 amended by Regulation V of 1085, included also *porambokes*. At present, some of the *porambokes*, such as premises of temples, Sirkar schools, Cutcherries, &c., were under the Revenue Department, and the produce of the trees on such lands was credited to the head of land revenue. The Committees had no control over such *porambokes*. Further, the produce of certain lands, which belonged to the Committees, went to other departments, and the sale proceeds of any fallen trees on such lands were appropriated by the Committee or the Revenue Department or the P. W. D., whoever happened to see the trees first. The Member therefore suggested that the definition of the word 'street' should be amended and the jurisdiction of the various departments as regards *porambokes* and the produce thereon clearly defined.

The Member next said that the maintenance of roads, canals, tanks and wells within the towns had now been entrusted to the P. W. D. He proposed that the Committees should be entrusted with the maintenance of the streets, canals, roads &c. and the allotment sanctioned for the purpose also made over to them. The present procedure for prosecuting cases of encroachment on *porambokes* was very elaborate and the cases dragged on to two or three years before final disposal. It was partly due to the fact that the *porambokes* had not been properly measured. He therefore suggested that, in the resurvey of the town, the *pakuthi* Accountant and the Taluk Surveyor be directed to work in the presence of a member of the Committee or the Conservancy Overseer and to supply the Committee with weekly returns of the work done, together with a copy of the measurement book, taking particular care to renew or repair the boundary marks on the ground immediately.

Lastly, the Member said that the power to order removal of encroachments after the cases were disposed of now vested with the Division Peishkar. That caused unnecessary delay. The Member suggested that the Presidents of towns should be invested with the power of a Division Peishkar under Regulation II of 1067.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

95. The need for the improvement of the roads and canals within the town of Thiruvalla.

Mr. K. M. Mammen Mappillay (Member, T. I. C., Thiruvalla) first referred to the Market canal, for the construction of which an estimate had been recently sanctioned. In regard to the alignment of the canal, he feared that the Public Works Department were taking a wrong line by the Lappalam bridge. A good portion of the amount sanctioned for the work would probably be required for raising the bridge. The line suggested by the Committee was much shorter and less expensive. He requested that the matter might be looked into.

In regard to the roads, he said that the Committee had already submitted a list of them and had also interviewed the Dewan in deputation. The Committee only asked for eight miles of road, and he requested that at least two miles of road should be insisted on being done every year.

In that connection, the Member suggested that the maintenance of the village roads, now entrusted to the P. W. D., was not being properly done. If the allotment was transferred to the Committee, the latter would convert them gradually into good cartable roads. He mentioned that as a general question.

Dewan.—I think that the question of roads within the T. I. C. towns should be dealt with as a general question. Leaving the main lines of communication with the

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